entitled " Remarks explanatory of a Section of the Drift or superficial Materials of the Northwest, from Lake Erie to the Lake of the Woods." Referred to the publishing committee.

A communication was read from Mr. E. S. Morse, of Portland, Me., on *Helix asteriscus*, and specimens of the shell were presented.

Helix asteriscus, Morse. Animal, short, bluish.

Shell, small, orbicular, very much depressed; whorls four, rounded above and below; banded by twenty-five to thirty very thin, transparent, and prominent ribs, very oblique, inclined backward; spire not rising above the last whorl; suture deeply impressed; umbilicus moderately large, showing all the volutions; finely striated between the ribs; in some specimens parallel lines may be observed. Color, light brown.

Dimensions: breadth, $\frac{1}{16}$ in.; height, $\frac{1}{32}$ in.

Found at Bethel, Me., in company with *Pupa pentodon* and *Pupa exigua*, Sept. 28, 1856.

Observations. This shell differs from *H. annulata*, Case, in being smaller, the umbilicus not so large, spire not elevated, intercostal space not marked with parallel lines, but finely striated; the color is also different.

Its peculiar thin, transparent ribs, depressed spire, and deep umbilicus, are prominent features that can never confound it with other species.

Mr. Amos Binney read the following communication from his brother, Mr. W. G. Binney, and presented the specimens referred to: —

Philadelphia, December 27, 1856.

Enclosed you will find a suite of the common American Snail, *Helix thyroidus*, Say, for the Museum of the Society.

Being engaged in a careful study of the land shells of the United States, I am paying particular attention to their *geographical distribution*. In forming suites of all the species from every part of the Union, some interesting results have been reached. The snail in question has been found in nearly every section of